

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER 007-2022

AN ORDER CALLING UPON ALL COUNTY COUNCILS OF THE TERRITORY TO SUBMIT THEIR LIST OF DELEGATES TO THE AMERICAN SAMOA 2022 CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Section 1: Authority

This executive order is hereby issued in accordance with the powers and authority granted to the Governor by Article IV, Sections 6 and 7 of the Revised Constitution of American Samoa, and the American Samoa Code Annotated, Section 4.0111 (b).

Section 2: Preamble

- **WHEREAS,** on September 23, 2021, the Governor signed Public Law 37-6 which provides for the budget of the American Samoa Constitutional Convention;
- WHEREAS, American Samoa last reviewed our Constitution in 2010, and in light of ever changing conditions, including a global pandemic, a Constitutional Convention is both timely and warranted;
- WHEREAS, the Constitutional Review Committee was appointed on February 4, 2022 and convened on February 8, 2022, immediately undertaking suggested revisions and amendments to Constitutional provisions for consideration by the Convention;
- **WHEREAS,** on June 17, 2022 the Constitutional Review Committee completed its work on suggested revisions and amendments to the Constitution for official review by the Convention delegates;
- **WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 4 states the "delegates to the convention shall be selected by their respective county councils";
- WHEREAS, Article V, Section 10 states the political district of Manu'a is composed of the political counties of Ta'u, Faleasao, Fitiuta, Olosega and Ofu;
- WHEREAS, the Eastern political district is composed of the political counties of Sua, Vaifanua, Saole, Ituau and Ma'uputasi;

- **WHEREAS**, the Western political district is composed of the political counties of Fofo, Leasina, Tualatai, Lealataua and Ma'upu (Tualauta);
- WHEREAS, each county shall have at least one delegate;
- **WHEREAS**, the number of delegates from each county shall be the number obtained by dividing the population of each county, as shown by the last preceding Federal census, by 400;
- WHEREAS, Swains Island shall have one delegate selected in open meeting by the adult permanent residents of the island who are US nationals;
- **WHEREAS,** Executive Order No. 006-2022 calls for a Constitutional Convention to meet August 29 to September 2, 2022; and
- WHEREAS, the Territory should move forward with the consideration of these important matters as well as others that will be made clearer in the near future.

NOW THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, Governor of American Samoa, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Revised Constitution of American Samoa and the American Samoa Code Annotated, hereby execute this order calling upon all county councils of the Territory to begin meeting and discussing the appointment of official delegates to the Constitutional Convention to be held August 29 through September 2, 2022.

Section 3: Order

The County Councils of the Territory are encouraged to begin meeting to discuss and appoint their respective delegates to the Constitutional Convention.

The following considerations are non-binding on the Councils. It is preferred to have delegates who are experienced in their communities and those with advanced education. It is in our best interest as a Territory to have broad representation including women, youth, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Councils should strive to appoint delegates who represent the demographics of their counties.

County Councils must submit, in writing, the names of their appointed delegates to the Office of Political Status, Constitutional Review and Federal Relations by <u>August 8, 2022</u>. That Office shall work closely with the Secretary of Samoan Affairs to coordinate the receipt of delegate names by the date noted above.

Delegate numbers shall conform to the following, as specified in Article V, Section 4 of the Revised Constitution of American Samoa and as outlined in the Preamble:

Political Counties	Delegates
Fitiuta	1
Faleasao	1
Ta'u	1
Olosega	1
Ofu	1
Vaifanua	4
Sua	6
Saole	3
Ma'uputasi	21
Ituau	18
Ma'upu (Tualauta)	48
Tualatai	8
Leasina	4
Fofo	7
Lealataua	4
Swains Island	1
Total Delegates	129

Section 4: Effective Date

This order shall take effect immediately.

Date: June 20, 2022

LEMANU P. S. MAUGA

Governor